

HOUSE BILL 2897
By Brooks (Shelby)

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2,
Chapter 14, relative to special elections.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-14-105, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

(a) Within ten (10) days after receipt of an order to hold a special election or notice of facts requiring a special election, the county election commission shall:

(1) Publish a notice of the date and purpose of the election in a newspaper of general circulation in the county;

(2) Publish the same notice as required by subdivision (1) in ethnic and alternative newspapers distributed within the district boundaries which have completed and filed with the county election commission a form prescribed by the county election commission. Such form must be on file at least five (5) working days prior to the date the county election commission is required to publish such notice in accordance with this subsection; and

(3) Notify all affected voters personally by mail twenty (20) days prior to a special primary election being called. Failure to so notify all affected voters for such election constitutes a lack of notice and shall render the special primary election void.

(b) In any election challenge for a special primary election, the county election commission shall be required to show proof to the challenger that:

(1) The notice was published in accordance with subsection (a)(1) in a newspaper of general circulation in the county and in alternative and ethnic newspapers which meet the requirements of subsection (a)(2); and

(2) The county election commission published a list in accordance with subsection (a) which identified the district number and every precinct located within the district for which the special primary election was held.

(c) In metropolitan areas having one hundred thousand (100,000) or more registered voters, the county election commission shall be required to hold in escrow a sum sufficient to cover minimum media electronic advertising for ten (10) days prior to a special primary election.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.